



MINUTES

MEETING: Regular Transportation Commission Meeting

TIME: Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: 9th Floor Visibility Center, Tacoma Municipal Building
747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

1. Call to Order

Co-chair Leighton called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. Roll Call/Introductions

Co-chair Leighton moved to excuse Andrew Austin. The motion was approved and seconded.

Co-chair Leighton announced Andrew Strobel's move to the Planning Commission.

CM Nyland called in to the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes (June 21, 2017)

Co-chair Leighton moved to approve Minutes. Voice vote was taken and Minutes were approved with one change.

4. Public Comment for Items on the Agenda

No Public Comment.

5. Business Items

a. 2018 TMP Amendments – Performance Measures (Josh Diekmann)

Josh explained that we wanted to start with updating the Performance Measures because we had a really good start in the adopted TMP but had not yet measured all of the baseline, so we wanted to take the opportunity to do this in the first year to make sure that these were ones that we could successfully measure and manage moving forward.

Question: On the TMP Performance Measures is the deletion of the Equity line based on a recommendation? Is the intent to simulate what the City's priorities are?

Answer: This text is currently in the TMP that follows the performance measurement section; there is a single line item in the equity bullet that crosses out a portion of it which talks about geographic and modal equity to focus more on serving underserved communities which is the City's current focus. If we do want to have a performance measure in there that addresses geographic and modal equity



we could do that separately.

CM Moore was concerned about taking out the treatment of modes language in the Equity bullet and felt if we take it out we should add it elsewhere.

Josh suggested revising the language in the Multimodal System bullet. One suggestion was to revise the language to "...by all modes consistent with the City's green transportation hierarchy".

Question: Is there an actual definition the City has for 'historically underserved communities'?

Answer: Josh said we would look into this.

CM Moore commented that the large handout states "as designated in the WSDOT ALPACA" (their mapping tool which shows census data). She suggested adding further explanation to the Equity bullet.

CM Leighton said that mode-split is referenced on Page 40 of the TMP so if we are going to change the Table it needs to be updated in both locations.

CM Moore asked why it was important for the City to be bicycle friendly (MS4) but not walk friendly? There is a program that designates walk friendly communities – ie Seattle & Bellevue. We should be paying attention to both. *Tracking for walking will be added to the performance measures.*

CM Leighton asked for clarification of E1. We need a goal of total completion and then a subset of that with a certain percentage of that total completion coming from areas of greater minority. We also need to confirm if we have a number identified for greater minority.

Is there something in the project table that identifies communities which are underserved – if not, they should be mapped. Identifying these communities also will help with grant applications.

Question: Is HE3 a transportation goal in the environmental action plan or just fossil fuels in general? It seems we should focus on decreasing transportation fossil fuel emissions as part of our goal.

CM Moore checked and confirmed that it is a Transportation goal.

Line Item 9 - CM Moore wanted clarification about staff tracking.

In the initiative we do track Active Transp \$ so CM Leighton feels we need to come back to that to track how much is spent on roads vs bikes vs sidewalks – include all projects not just Initiative funded projects.

CM Moore pointed out that Line 17 recommending Action TMP 8 needs to be corrected since TMP 8 refers to Potholes and Line 17 is about the development of a Subarea Plan.

CM Leighton did not like removal of Line 17, but Josh explained that we are eliminating it because we wanted to make the data meaningful. CM Leighton feels that since it's a goal it should still be included. CM Skaught said that sometimes it is difficult to track down certain data and may not be the best use of staff time.

Line 21 – CM Leighton felt miles of lanes striped should still be tracked and not removed from the TMP.

Josh said we could provide this readily since we expect to have a contract for striping every year.

Question: Are school beacons considered part of the streetlight infrastructure?

Answer: They are not included at this time.

CM Mason asked for clarification of SP2 and verification that the percentage was actually lower in 2016 as compared to 2015. Josh confirmed that this was correct.

CM Leighton asked that FS2 be changed to be in line with the others which forecast to 2040 – could change to “as identified in the Streets Initiative Report which will sunset in 2026”.

CM Mason asked that we add some clarity to FS1 as to what non-Public Works dollars include – i.e. Grants, LID, Port of Tacoma contributions, etc.

CM Moore pointed out that there is no TMP9 which is referenced on Line 26 so it needs to be added.

Question: What is the definition of optimizing in C1?

Answer: In a nutshell it means the City will be retiming about 100 signals every year.

CM Skaught asked if the bullets/categories could be alphabetized for simplicity.

CM Nyland asked if we could add a performance measure showing how compliant projects are with the TMP itself – i.e. 21st St., Fawcett. Further discussion ensued.

CM Mason confirmed the intent of the arrows – they don’t signify the trend for the year but actually indicate the trend we are looking for – either a decrease or increase of the measure.

Co-chair Leighton asked that the text in SP2 be changed to match the goal since that is done throughout the document. That way if the graph is not included at any time, the percentage is still reflected in the text.

The Commission will review the document and come back in August prepared to vote.

b. 2018 TMP Amendments – Appendices C and D (Josh Diekmann)

We had talked about moving forward the mobility master plan. The two Appendices are for Bicycle and Pedestrian Implementation strategies.

Co-chair Leighton asked that BPTAG review these first and come back with their comments to the Commission. He prefers that the version without the Commission’s edits be brought to BPTAG – Josh said they would try but that may not be possible.

The suggestion was made to form a smaller group to look at both Appendices

before the next joint meeting (August 28) since we will have a full agenda already.

Co-chair Leighton asked if we thought about utilizing both Pierce and Sound Transit's long range plans as Appendices since they have action strategies included. He thought it could be interesting to think about. Each mode could have an action strategy associated with it.

Co-chair Moore said there are some inconsistencies with separating the bicycle and pedestrian language within each Appendix that caught her attention. Also, the graphic that talks about the Mobility Master Plan can be removed.

Co-chair Moore asked for volunteers for the sub-committee and said she would be on it. The date selected was 7/31. CM Nyland said that he would be interested in being on the committee and CM Mason also volunteered.

Josh asked that the Commission send any comments/edits to the Appendices to Jennifer.

CM Mason asked if the implementation strategies were all new. Co-chair Moore said they are not new just moved; we just did not have an Appendix D before so it looks new.

Josh mentioned that there may be an additional Appendix modification if the centers of local importance are modified at the County level, but we will bring that up later this summer if that happens.

6. Other Business/Updates

a. Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG)

Eric and Judi had already left so there was no update to PTAG.

b. Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group (BPTAG)

No updates.

c. Planning Commission Agenda

There is a Tacoma Mall subarea meeting tomorrow per Co-chair Leighton.

There was discussion about the interim Tideflats regulations.

d. Commission Comments

Co-chair Leighton mentioned a walkability event on August 7 – the invite will be re-sent to the Commission members.

John mentioned that he will miss the next 2 meetings. Co-chair Leighton will call in to the next meeting and will not be there for the joint meeting.

7. Staff Reports

a. Responses to Commission Inquiries

There is an upcoming Community Meeting for the E. 64th Street meeting. The details will be sent to the Commission by e-mail.

Puyallup Avenue will be discussed at the next BPTAG meeting and they will pass

on comments to the Commission. Josh mentioned that there is another alternative that is being worked on and once it is available we will send it out to the Commission. The comment deadline is closing but the project team is anticipating comments from the Commission.

Co-chair Leighton requested a presentation on the Puyallup Avenue project and feels the Commission should be more involved as they were in N. 21st. Their feedback and input should weigh more heavily than just a comment letter. He also asked that Josh reach out to Pierce Transit and ask them for an official comment on the alternatives that have been presented because it sounds like in spite of being a part of the meetings, Pierce Transit is concerned about not being able to getting their buses through the corridor.

Co-chair Leighton asked where the Commission fits in regards to the decision making tree of what gets sent to Council. Josh said that this is still the conceptual design phase of the project but once the design phase begins the plan is to incorporate the Commission.

Co-chair Moore still thinks the Commission should have input during the conceptual design since the design many times is created at this point.

Co-chair Leighton is hoping the joint meeting will be one at which they can provide comment on the Puyallup Ave. project.

b. Status of Grant Applications & Major Capital Projects

TIB applications are due August 18 – we are still applying for E. 64th and S. 21st (adjacent to Town Center).

We were awarded the Ped/Bike grant on Fawcett north of Town Center which will tie into the Town Center.

Revolving low income loan sidewalk program – the amount that we allocated may not be enough to make it a stand-alone program. Staff is considering combining them with existing programs. Mark D’Andrea is creating the proposal for this program.

c. Upcoming Public Meetings & Events

Already covered earlier.

d. Commission Member Terms

We need to fill several positions and the timeline is that applications need to be submitted by the 21st with interviews occurring August 9.

8. Public Comment

No Public in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.